

IN THE CLAIMS:

Please cancel claims 19-25, 28-30 and 35-38 without prejudice.

1. (Cancelled)
2. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 31, wherein at least one of the first and second units of work is a query.
3. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 31, wherein at least one of the first and second units of work is an analysis routine.
4. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 31, further comprising displaying the returned first and second sets of user-selectable scheduling options via a menu in the user interface.
5. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 31, further comprising, for each of the first and second sets of user-selectable scheduling options:
 - receiving a user selection from the respective set of user-selectable scheduling options; and
 - storing a schedule for the respective unit of work on the basis of the user selection.
6. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 31, further comprising, for each of the first and second sets of user-selectable scheduling options:
 - receiving a user selection from the respective set of user selectable scheduling options;
 - storing a schedule for the respective unit of work on the basis of the user selection; and
 - repetitively executing the respective unit of work on the basis of the schedule.

7. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 31, wherein determining the first and second costs to execute the first and second units of work, respectively, comprises estimating a respective time required to execute the respective unit of work.

8. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 31, wherein determining the first and second costs to execute the first and second units of work is done on the basis of historical query execution times for previous executions of the respective units of work.

9. (Cancelled)

10. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 31, wherein determining the first and second sets of user-selectable scheduling options comprises:

determining user parameters specific to a user; and

determining the respective set of user-selectable scheduling options for future execution of the respective unit of work on the basis of the respective cost and the user parameters.

11. (Original) The method of claim 10, wherein the user parameters include at least one of a user status of the user and other units of work already scheduled for execution by the user.

12. (Cancelled)

13. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 33, wherein determining system availability to execute the first and second units of work, respectively, comprises accessing a query schedule having entries defined for respective units of work.

14. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 33, further comprising, for each of the first and second sets of user-selectable scheduling options:

receiving a user selection from the respective set of user selectable scheduling options;

storing a schedule for the respective unit of work on the basis of the user selection; and

repetitively executing the respective unit of work on the basis of the schedule.

15. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 33, wherein determining the first and second costs to execute the first and second units of work comprises estimating a respective time required to execute the respective unit of work.

16. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 33, wherein determining the first and second costs to execute the first and second units of work is done on the basis of historical query execution times for previous executions of the respective unit of work.

17-30. (Cancelled)

31. (Currently Amended) A computer-implemented method for scheduling execution of units of work, comprising:

determining a first cost to execute a first unit of work;

determining a first set of user-selectable scheduling options for future execution of the first unit of work based on the first cost, wherein the first set of user-selectable scheduling options is a subset of a larger set of scheduling options, wherein the larger set of scheduling options is stored on a computer readable storage medium and includes a plurality of user-selectable time criteria and frequency criteria, wherein the time criteria specifies when the execution of a given unit of work will begin and the frequency criteria specifies how frequently the given unit of work will be executed;

returning the first set of user-selectable scheduling options to a user interface for display, whereby the user interface presents:

time criteria selection elements from which a user specifies a time at which execution of the first unit of work will begin; and

frequency criteria selection elements from which the user specifies a frequency at which the first unit of work will be executed beginning at the specified time;

determining a second cost to execute a second unit of work;

determining a second set of user-selectable scheduling options for future execution of the second unit of work based on the second cost, wherein the second set

of user-selectable scheduling options is a subset of the larger set of scheduling options, and wherein the second set of user-selectable scheduling options is different than the first set of user-selectable scheduling options; and

returning the second set of user-selectable scheduling options to a user interface for display, whereby the user interface presents:

time criteria selection elements from which a user specifies a time at which execution of the second unit of work will begin; and

frequency criteria selection elements from which the user specifies a frequency at which the second unit of work will be executed beginning at the specified time.

32. (Previously Presented) The computer-implemented method of claim 31, wherein:

the first cost to execute the first unit of work is higher than the second cost to execute the second unit of work; and

the first set of user-selectable scheduling options is less than the second set of user-selectable scheduling options.

33. (Currently Amended) A computer-implemented method for scheduling units of work, comprising:

determining a first cost to execute a first unit of work;

determining system availability to execute the first unit of work;

determining a first set of user-selectable scheduling options for future execution of the first unit of work on the basis of the first cost and the system availability, wherein the first set of user-selectable scheduling options is a subset of a larger set of scheduling options, and wherein the larger set of scheduling options [[are]] is stored on a computer readable storage medium and includes a plurality of user-selectable time criteria and frequency criteria, wherein the time criteria specifies when the execution of a given unit of work will begin and the frequency criteria specifies how frequently the given unit of work will be executed;

returning the first set of user-selectable scheduling options to a user interface for display, whereby the user interface presents:

time criteria selection elements from which a user specifies a time at which execution of the first unit of work will begin; and

frequency criteria selection elements from which the user specifies a frequency at which the first unit of work will be executed beginning at the specified time;

determining a second cost to execute a second unit of work;

determining system availability to execute the second unit of work;

determining a second set of user-selectable scheduling options for future execution of the second unit of work on the basis of the second cost and the system availability, wherein the first set of user-selectable scheduling options is a subset of the larger set of scheduling options, and wherein the second set of user-selectable scheduling options is different than the first set of user-selectable scheduling options;

and

returning the second set of user-selectable scheduling options to a user interface for display, whereby the user interface presents:

time criteria selection elements from which a user specifies a time at which execution of the second unit of work will begin; and

frequency criteria selection elements from which the user specifies a frequency at which the second unit of work will be executed beginning at the specified time.

34. (Previously Presented) The computer-implemented method of claim 33, wherein:

the first cost to execute the first unit of work is higher than the second cost to execute the second unit of work; and

the first set of user-selectable scheduling options is less than the second set of user-selectable scheduling options.

PATENT

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35-38. (Canceled)